(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether HMT is vying to have Joint Ventures (JVs) with Japanese Companies for manufacture of mono-rails and other vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Government has asked HMT group of companies to formulate a comprehensive plan for revival. The revival plans in two cases of HMT group of companies have been approved by the Government, as under:—

(Rupees in Crores)

Company	Revival package
HMT Bearings Limited	51.37
Praga Tools Limited	214.71

(c) and (d) Efforts are being made by the holding company HMT Ltd. to enter into automobile manufacturing for which technology partners are being scouted including auto majors from Japan. These initiatives are at a preliminary stage.

HMT factory in Uttaranchal

1468. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether H.M.T. has any factory or installation in Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these are running properly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. HMT Watches Limited, a subsidiary of HMT

has a Watch Manufacturing Unit at Ranibagh, Uttaranchal, manufacturing Mechanical Hand Wound Watches.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The performance of the Unit since inception in 1985 upto 31.03.2005 is as below:—

Production	Rs. 604 crores
Sales	Rs. 570 crores
Loss	Rs. 379 crores

Due to declining demand of mechanical watches the company could not sustain generation of internal resources and became sick and has not been able to pay Salary/Wages of its employes. Government has asked HMT watches Ltd. to prepare a viable and sustainable restructuring plan.

Strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions

1469. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Panchayati Raj Institutions, State-wise and the steps being taken to strengthen such institutions;

(b) whether any steps have been or are being taken to determine the functional areas of the different tiers of local bodies in order to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions;

(c) whether any steps have been or are being taken to provide them the staff and budget under Government to the Panchayati Raj Institutions; and

(d) if so, the details of such steps taken as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) All States to which the Constitution 73rd Amendment Act 1992 applies, except Jharkhand and Pondicherry, have held elections and constituted Panchayats in accordance with the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution. However, as the Constitution provides that it is legislatures of States that will endow the Panchayati Raj Institutions with powers and authority, States have devolved powers and responsibilities to the Panchayats in varying measure.

To provide an impetus to the implementation of Part IX of the Constitution in letter and spirit, by States, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj